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**Amendment to Public Health Order No. 20-9-01**  
**Requiring masks or face coverings in schools and at school events.**

Securing the health and well-being of Cowley County residents and providing the safest environment for education in our community continues as a high priority in the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our learning institutions are places where all residents intermingle. Staff, teachers, parents, students, and family members all are connected through and around school related activities.

Local school districts and Boards of Education have responded diligently during the current school year and worked with the Cowley County Public Health Officer to respond to the pandemic in the educational environment. In what has been a difficult school year, the efforts of the local school districts have helped keep the children of Cowley County engaged in learning while simultaneously keeping the virus out of our schools.

During the past 90 days the administration of vaccine to prevent the infection of SARS-CoV2 virus has been the focus of local public health. We are pleased that each school district in our County has responded with vaccination clinics for teachers and staff members. Additionally, we are pleased that the spread of the virus in Cowley County has slowed considerably.

As the Cowley County Public Health Officer, I am aware of the continuing personal feelings that are held by individual citizens both pro and con centered around vaccine acceptance and the continued wearing of masks and face coverings especially once you have been completely vaccinated.

As such, **Public Health Order 20-9-01 is hereby rescinded**, and is being replaced with the following public health guidance for local Unified School Districts in Cowley County.

**All individuals wishing to enter school venues or buildings including sports stadiums or game sites must contact the appropriate school district offices and observe all protective health requirements including mask or face-covering requirements that are in effect for the host facilities.**

In all situations it is recommended that individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 use their discretion and personal risk tolerance to determine when the wearing of a mask or face covering is appropriate in public settings. Individuals who have not been vaccinated should continue to follow the more restrictive measures to protect themselves and others, by remaining home if ill, maintaining social distance in public, and wearing masks at all times while in public settings.

April 8, 2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Langer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas Langer, MPA  
Cowley County Public Health Officer